Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for providing session protection for user privacy over a network, by means including at least a client and a remote server, wherein a user, using a client application, may submit a request through said client for a specified action to be performed in response to said request by said remote server, said user-submitted request comprising identity information that identifies the user making the request, and action information that specifies the action requested from said remote server by said user, wherein said communications are provided in a secure and anonymous manner in that said action information is submitted to said remote server without revealing said identity information to said remote server, and in that only said client, and not any facility through which said action information or any response thereto passes in the course of being submitted to or received from said remote server, possesses both said identity information and said action information, said system comprising (in addition to said client and remote server):

    (a) separating, within said client application, said identity information and said action information from the user's information request, encrypting said action information, and sending said identity information and said action information as so encrypted to an identity server;

    (b) transmitting said encrypted action information from said identity server to an action server;

    (c) decrypting, within said action server, said action information, transmitting said decrypted action information to said remote server, receiving the remote server's response, encrypting said remote server response, and transmitting said encrypted remote server response to said identity server;

    (d) receiving, within said identity server said encrypted remote server response from said action server, associating said encrypted remote server response with said identity

information and sending said encrypted remote server response to said <u>client</u> application; and

    (e) decrypting, within said client application, said remote server response and forwarding said decrypted remote server response to said client for presentation to said user.

2. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

3. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

4. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

5. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

6. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

7. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

8. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

9. (previously withdrawn without prejudice)

10. (currently withdrawn without prejudice)

11. (previously amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said identity server and said action server are implemented as processes or threads which may execute on the same or different computers.

12. (currently amended) The method of claim <u>1</u> ~~10~~ carried out in a distributed operating environment in which there are a plurality of users, a plurality of identity servers and a plurality of action servers, all communicating in accordance with the method of claim 1.

13. (currently withdrawn without prejudice)